

<p align="center"><b>Early Learning and Childcare</b>  <b>– Head Start, Early Head Start, &amp; Early Childhood Education Assistance Program --</b></p>
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### What is the service?

- Comprehensive early childhood education and family assistance services to promote school readiness. Programs include comprehensive health screening covering physical, developmental, dental, nutritional, mental health and immunization needs; promotion of school readiness through socio-behavioral development; family support; and transportation. Families are also referred to appropriate community agencies to address health needs.
- Services at Head Start (HS), Early Head Start (EHS) and Early Childhood Education Assistance Program (ECEAP) are very similar regarding school readiness promotion; noticeable differences are seen in funding, client demographics, and intensity of services. Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Programs provide similar comprehensive services to migrant and seasonal farm-worker families.<sup>1</sup>
- Parental involvement is highly encouraged. Volunteer opportunities available at program sites, performing outreach activities, and taking part in the Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP (an advocacy organization comprised of 50% parents, 25% staff, and 25% directors).
- Website: <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/esa/dccel/hsstateprofile2001-2002.pdf>

### Description and Comparison of HS/EHS/ECEAP

	HS/EHS <sup>2</sup>	ECEAP <sup>3</sup>																														
<b>Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Federal funded (directly to local, bypassing state)</li> <li>▪ Regulated and monitored by federal government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mostly state funded</li> <li>▪ Regulated and monitored by state</li> </ul>																														
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>*Targets low-income, at-risk, and those with disabilities            *100% and under FPL</p> <p><b>Actual Enrollment by Type of Eligibility, 2004</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>Receipt of public assistance</td><td>4,277</td><td>23.0%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Income eligible (&lt; 100% FPL)</td><td>12,785</td><td>68.7%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Over income (&gt;100% FPL)</td><td>1,130</td><td>6.1%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Foster children</td><td>424</td><td>2.3%</td></tr> </table>	Receipt of public assistance	4,277	23.0%	Income eligible (< 100% FPL)	12,785	68.7%	Over income (>100% FPL)	1,130	6.1%	Foster children	424	2.3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Targets low-income, at-risk, and those with disabilities</li> <li>▪ 110% and under FPL</li> </ul> <p><b>Household FPL Status, 2005</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>80% of FPL and Under</td><td>4203</td><td>61.60%</td></tr> <tr> <td>81%-100% FPL</td><td>1398</td><td>20.50%</td></tr> <tr> <td>101%-110% FPL</td><td>749</td><td>11.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>111%-130% FPL</td><td>195</td><td>2.90%</td></tr> <tr> <td>131%-200% FPL</td><td>217</td><td>3.20%</td></tr> <tr> <td>&gt; 200% FPL</td><td>66</td><td>1.00%</td></tr> </table>	80% of FPL and Under	4203	61.60%	81%-100% FPL	1398	20.50%	101%-110% FPL	749	11.00%	111%-130% FPL	195	2.90%	131%-200% FPL	217	3.20%	> 200% FPL	66	1.00%
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<sup>2</sup> Head Start and Early Head Start State Profile Data and Charts, 2004. Accessed 8/05

<sup>3</sup> Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program, Data and Charts as of 6/30/05. Accessed 8/05

	HS/EHS <sup>4</sup>	ECEAP <sup>5</sup>																																																																																																																																							
<b>Demographics</b>	<p><b>Actual Enrollment by Ethnicity, 2004</b> (Including AIAN and Migrant/Seasonal)</p> <table> <tr><td>American Indian/ Alaska Native (AIAN)</td><td>1,236</td><td>6.6%</td></tr> <tr><td>Asian</td><td>813</td><td>4.4%</td></tr> <tr><td>Black/African- American</td><td>1,480</td><td>8.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>Hispanic/Latino</td><td>7,120</td><td>38.3%</td></tr> <tr><td>Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander</td><td>148</td><td>0.8%</td></tr> <tr><td>White</td><td>5,893</td><td>31.7%</td></tr> <tr><td>Bi-racial/Multi-racial</td><td>1,571</td><td>8.4%</td></tr> <tr><td>Other</td><td>11</td><td>0.1%</td></tr> <tr><td>Unspecified</td><td>344</td><td>1.9%</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Actual Enrollment by Child Age, 2004</b></p> <table> <tr><td>Under one year</td><td>1,205</td><td>6.6%</td></tr> <tr><td>One year old</td><td>1,235</td><td>6.7%</td></tr> <tr><td>Two years old</td><td>1,404</td><td>7.6%</td></tr> <tr><td>Three years old</td><td>4,707</td><td>25.6%</td></tr> <tr><td>Four years old</td><td>9,044</td><td>49.2%</td></tr> <tr><td>Five years and older</td><td>773</td><td>4.2%</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Actual Enrollment of Children by Health Insurance, 2004</b></p> <table> <tr><td>Medicaid/EPSDT</td><td>13,735</td><td>74.8%</td></tr> <tr><td>State CHIP</td><td>306</td><td>1.7%</td></tr> <tr><td>Combined State CHIP/Medicaid</td><td>526</td><td>2.9%</td></tr> <tr><td>State-only funded</td><td>713</td><td>3.9%</td></tr> <tr><td>Private</td><td>954</td><td>5.2%</td></tr> <tr><td>Other</td><td>640</td><td>3.5%</td></tr> <tr><td>Uninsured</td><td>1,494</td><td>8.1%</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Actual Enrollment of Pregnant Women by Health Insurance, 2004</b></p> <table> <tr><td>Insured</td><td>217</td><td>87.5%</td></tr> <tr><td>Uninsured</td><td>31</td><td>12.5%</td></tr> </table>	American Indian/ Alaska Native (AIAN)	1,236	6.6%	Asian	813	4.4%	Black/African- American	1,480	8.0%	Hispanic/Latino	7,120	38.3%	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	148	0.8%	White	5,893	31.7%	Bi-racial/Multi-racial	1,571	8.4%	Other	11	0.1%	Unspecified	344	1.9%	Under one year	1,205	6.6%	One year old	1,235	6.7%	Two years old	1,404	7.6%	Three years old	4,707	25.6%	Four years old	9,044	49.2%	Five years and older	773	4.2%	Medicaid/EPSDT	13,735	74.8%	State CHIP	306	1.7%	Combined State CHIP/Medicaid	526	2.9%	State-only funded	713	3.9%	Private	954	5.2%	Other	640	3.5%	Uninsured	1,494	8.1%	Insured	217	87.5%	Uninsured	31	12.5%	<p><b>Children's Race, 2005</b> (Totals can be &gt;100% because may count more than one race)</p> <table> <tr><td>White</td><td>3609</td><td>52.90%</td></tr> <tr><td>American Indian/ Alaska Native</td><td>363</td><td>5.30%</td></tr> <tr><td>Asian</td><td>344</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr><td>Black/African American</td><td>842</td><td>12.30%</td></tr> <tr><td>Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander</td><td>162</td><td>2.40%</td></tr> <tr><td>Some Other Race</td><td>859</td><td>12.60%</td></tr> <tr><td>No Response</td><td>1273</td><td>18.60%</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Children's Ethnicity, 2005</b></p> <table> <tr><td>Hispanic</td><td>2592</td><td>38.0%</td></tr> <tr><td>Non-Hispanic</td><td>3987</td><td>58.4%</td></tr> <tr><td>Ethnicity not reported</td><td>255</td><td>3.6%</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Cumulative Enrollment: 6828</b></p> <p><b>Cumulative Enrollment by Gender, 2005</b></p> <table> <tr><td>Male</td><td>3429</td><td>50.20%</td></tr> <tr><td>Female</td><td>3399</td><td>49.80%</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Cumulative Enrollment by Child's Age, 2005</b></p> <table> <tr><td>3 Year Olds</td><td>1457</td><td>21.20%</td></tr> <tr><td>4 Year Olds</td><td>5377</td><td>78.70%</td></tr> <tr><td>5 Year Olds</td><td>4</td><td>0.10%</td></tr> <tr><td>Over 5 Year Olds</td><td>0</td><td>0.00%</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Children's Medical/Dental Coverage, 2005</b></p> <table> <tr><td>Healthy Kids</td><td>1538</td><td>22.50%</td></tr> <tr><td>WA Basic Health Plan</td><td>626</td><td>9.20%</td></tr> <tr><td>Private Medical Insurance</td><td>445</td><td>6.50%</td></tr> <tr><td>Medicaid</td><td>2894</td><td>42.40%</td></tr> <tr><td>CHIP</td><td>160</td><td>2.30%</td></tr> </table>	White	3609	52.90%	American Indian/ Alaska Native	363	5.30%	Asian	344	5.00%	Black/African American	842	12.30%	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	162	2.40%	Some Other Race	859	12.60%	No Response	1273	18.60%	Hispanic	2592	38.0%	Non-Hispanic	3987	58.4%	Ethnicity not reported	255	3.6%	Male	3429	50.20%	Female	3399	49.80%	3 Year Olds	1457	21.20%	4 Year Olds	5377	78.70%	5 Year Olds	4	0.10%	Over 5 Year Olds	0	0.00%	Healthy Kids	1538	22.50%	WA Basic Health Plan	626	9.20%	Private Medical Insurance	445	6.50%	Medicaid	2894	42.40%	CHIP	160	2.30%
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		Private Dental Insurance                      319    4.70% Other                              861    12.60% None                                606    8.90%																					
<b>Intensity of Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Usually longer in duration and service intensity than ECEAP</li> </ul>																						
<b>Served</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children up to age 5 years and their families</li> </ul> <p><b>Number of Centers by Program</b> (Excluding family care centers)</p> <table> <tr> <td>Head Start</td> <td>257</td> <td>72.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Early Head Start</td> <td>42</td> <td>11.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AI/AN Head Start</td> <td>24</td> <td>6.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AI/AN</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>    Early Head Start</td> <td>2</td> <td>0.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Migrant/Seasonal</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>    Head Start</td> <td>30</td> <td>8.5%</td> </tr> </table>	Head Start	257	72.4%	Early Head Start	42	11.8%	AI/AN Head Start	24	6.8%	AI/AN			Early Head Start	2	0.6%	Migrant/Seasonal			Head Start	30	8.5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children ages 3-4 years and their families (priority given to 4 year-olds)</li> </ul>
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### Issues/Concerns

- Administrative changes:<sup>6</sup>
  - Reauthorization bill passed the House in May 2005 and is pending in the Senate.
  - Bills focus on increasing Head Start coordination with other services for early childhood learning, improving staff qualifications, fiscal accountability and increasing competition among Head Start grantees.
  - Concerns that the National Reporting System (NRS), which require all 4 year old Head Start children to be tested, will be the only data used to evaluate agencies and assess funding.<sup>7</sup>
- Unfunded Mandates/Accountability without new resources:
  - U.S. Senate Bill #1107, if passed, would raise teacher qualification requirements without providing additional funding, resulting in possible \$3.4 billion funding gap. Potential side effects include: teacher layoffs, reduced operation hours, reduced transportation provisions.<sup>8,9</sup>
  - US Reauthorization bill in Senate would limit role of parents, especially fathers, in Head Start program involvement.<sup>10</sup>
- ECEAP-specific:
  - Contractors would like to see increased funding per child to align more with Head Start funding.

<sup>6</sup> CRS Report for Congress, "Head Start: Background and Issues". Website: <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/CRSHeadStartReport.pdf> Accessed 3/8/2006.

<sup>7</sup> Nation's Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agency, "Policy Update: Head Start Reauthorization Moves Forward in Congress". Website: <http://www.naccrra.net/policy/?id=51>. Released 6/6/05.

<sup>8</sup> National Head Start Association, "\$3.4 Billion Head Start 'Funding Gap' seen as Congress moves to raise teacher degree requirements without paying more for the improvement in quality". Website: <http://www.saveheadstart.org/071405release.html>. Released 7/14/05

<sup>9</sup> Hart K., Schumacher R. Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), "Making the Case: Improving Teacher Qualifications Requires Increased Investment". Website: [http://www.clasp.org/publications/hs\\_policy\\_paper\\_1.pdf](http://www.clasp.org/publications/hs_policy_paper_1.pdf). Released 7/05.

<sup>10</sup> National Head Start Association (NHSA). "Pending US Senate Head Start Bill would undercut role of nearly 200,000 fathers across United States" Website: [http://www.saveheadstart.org/061605\\_NHSA\\_FathersDay\\_Release.html](http://www.saveheadstart.org/061605_NHSA_FathersDay_Release.html). Released 6/16/05